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RULES RELATING TO THE COMET MEDAL OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC.

I. A medal of bronze is established, as a perpetual foundation, to be given for the discovery of comets, as follows:—

The medal is to bear on the *obverse* side the effigy of a bright comet among stars, with the legend, "ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC," around the border; and on the *reverse* the inscription, "THIS MEDAL FOUNDED IN 1896 BY JOSEPH A. DONOHOE, IS PRESENTED TO..... (the name of the discoverer) TO COMMEMORATE THE DISCOVERY OF A COMET ON.....(the date)."

It is to be understood that this medal is intended solely as a recognition of merit, and not as a reward.

II. The medal will be given to the actual discoverer of any unexpected comet.

III. The discoverer is to make his discovery known in the usual way, and, in order to simplify the work of the committee, which, in certain cases may be called upon to consider the merits of several independent discoveries of the same object, he should also address a letter to the Director of the Lick Observatory, which should state the exact time of the discovery, the position of the comet, the direction of its motion (when this can be determined), and the physical appearance of the object.

No application for the bestowal of the medal is required. The letters received from discoverers of comets will be preserved in the records of the Lick Observatory. Cable telegrams to the Lick Observatory are to be addressed to "Astronomer, San Francisco."

IV. All communications will be referred to a committee consisting of the Director of the Lick Observatory, *ex officio*, and of two other persons, members of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, who are to be annually appointed by the Board of Directors. The decisions of this committee are to be final upon all points relating to the award of the medal. The committee will print an annual statement of its operations in the publications of the Society.

Under ordinary circumstances the comet medal will be awarded within two months after the date of the discovery. In cases of doubt a longer period may elapse. The medal will not

be awarded (unless under the most exceptional circumstances) for the discovery of a comet until enough observations are secured (by the discoverer or by others) to permit the calculation and verification of its orbit.

V. This medal is to be a perpetual foundation from and after January 1, 1890.

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